

Please amend claims 11 and 16 and cancel claims 12 - 15 as set out below:

11 (currently amended). A redispersable polymer composition comprising a polymer, said polymer containing silanol groups, said silanol groups being protected with at least one protective group, wherein said composition is in the form of a powder, said protective group comprises a hydroxy-containing compound, said hydroxy-containing compound comprises a polyol and wherein said polyol comprises a polhydric alcohol in the form of trimethylolpropane, glycol, diethylene glycol, butane triol, pentane triol, hexane triol, pentaerythriol, or mixtures thereof.

12. (cancelled).

13. (cancelled).

14. (cancelled).

15. (cancelled).

16. (currently amended). The redispersable polymer composition of claim [13] 11 wherein said polyol comprises a polymer with more than two hydroxy groups.

17. (previously added). The redispersible composition of claim 16 wherein said polyol comprises polyvinyl alcohol.

18. (previously added). An aqueous system comprising water and the redispersable compound of claim 11.

19 – 22 (withdrawn).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted



Charles W. Almer  
Reg. No. 36,731  
Tel. No. 908 707-3738

National Starch and Chemical Company  
10 Finderne Avenue  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807